

# NJMC NEWS RELEASE

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**New Jersey  
Meadowlands  
Commission**

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## NJMC to Unveil Steps to Broaden Partnership With Business Community

**LYNDHURST, N.J.** – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission will consider steps to strengthen its relationship with the business and development communities in the Meadowlands District at its meeting on Wednesday, February 24. If approved by Commissioners, a package of resolutions would increase stakeholder input to the regulatory process, launch an internal review of the NJMC's existing regulations, and better publicize the agency's existing pre-application services, which can save developers critical cost and time.

The resolutions are in keeping with Gov. Christie's Executive Order No. 2, which directs state agencies to ensure that their rules and regulations do not needlessly hinder economic growth, and with the NJMC's mandate to balance economic development and environmental concerns.

"These common sense steps would further the NJMC's ongoing efforts to solicit stakeholder input in the rule making process and assist businesses throughout the development application process," said Lori Grifa, Acting Chairman of the NJMC and Acting Commissioner of the state Department of Community Affairs. "By taking these actions the NJMC can improve its customer service and better encourage economic growth while continuing to protect the health and safety of the environment and District residents."

The Regulatory Advisory Groups would be composed of a broad range of stakeholders including members of the business community, the Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce, municipal leaders, the environmental community, academic institutions and other parties. An advisory group would be formed for each rulemaking and meet with NJMC officials before a new rule is proposed, providing the Commission additional information on the likely impacts of its regulatory actions.

The panels would build upon the Commission's existing commitment to stakeholder involvement during the regulatory process. Last summer the NJMC began a voluntary review of its Master Plan, inviting members of the business community, municipal leaders and other stakeholders to comment on the plan, which was last revised in 2004.

Another resolution calls for the NJMC to evaluate its current rules and regulations to ensure that they do not deter economic growth and are not redundant, ineffective or have unintended negative consequences for the Meadowlands District. The NJMC has a highly efficient review process for applications, and this regulatory

evaluation would enable the Commission to further streamline its administrative and regulatory systems, without sacrificing environmental protections

The NJMC's professional staff – including engineers, planners and code officials – already makes itself available to meet with businesses and individuals before and during the development application process. Commission staff possess unique skills and specialized knowledge relating to development within the Meadowlands District and staff members can provide critical information and guidance that can save applicants time and money. By increasing awareness of these resources the Commission can enhance its relationship with the business and development communities and bolster economic growth in the District.

“There are a number of ways in which the NJMC can work together with businesses and individuals who wish to develop in the Meadowlands District,” said Robert Ceberio, the NJMC's executive director. “By communicating with people more often and more effectively we can strengthen those partnerships.”

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